

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 06934 051648Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 EUR-12 /033 W

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R 051530Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 707

UNCLAS KINSHASA 6934

STATE FOR, AF/P

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

1. KINSHASA DAILY ELIMA JULY 5 CARRIES A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S JUNE 30TH ADDRESS REASSURING ALLIES OF AMERICA'S ABILITY TO SURVIVE A NUCLEAR ATTACK AND TO RETALIATE AND DESTROY THE AGGRESSOR THEREAFTER. ASSISTANT EDITOR KIEKIE M. NGEYAY INDICATES THAT WHILE THIS NEWS WAS RECEIVED WITH GREAT RELIEF AMONG U.S. ALLIES WHO HAVE OFTEN DOUBTED NATO'S MILITARY CAPACITY, IT CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS WARNING TO THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES. "ANYONE THINING THAT THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH IS JUST BLACKMAIL IS MAKING A BIG MISTAKE", WARNS THE EDITOR, "BECAUSE U.S. ARMED FORCES ARE REALLY CAPABLE OF RESPONDING TO ANY AGGRESSION, EVEN A NUCLEAR ONE."

2. ACCORDING TO MR. KIEKIE: "WHAT WORRIES IMPARTIAL OBSERVERS IS PRESIDENT CARTER'S DIRECT, STRAIGHT TALK STYLE---WHICH CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH THE TRADITION FOLLOWED BY HIS PREDECESSORS---ESPECIALLY WHEN HE SPEAKS OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS." THE EDITOR BELIEVES THAT IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, SOMEDAY SOME IS LIKELY TO ACCUSE MR. CARTER OF HARBORING BELLICOSE FEELINGS AGAINST THE EAST.

3. THE COMMENTARY AFFIRMS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS CONCERNED ABOUT  
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THE DANGER OF A THIRD WORLD WAR---A NUCLEAR ONE THIS TIME---AND HAS TOLD THE WORLD THAT THE U.S. AND NATO ARE READY FOR IT.

"THAT'S GOOD," CONCLUDES THE EDITOR, "BUT LET THE U.S. NOT BE THE FIRST TO PRESS THE BUTTON THAT WILL BRING ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD." ITEM.

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## Message Attributes

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